

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

By this Preliminary Amendment, the application has been amended to conform with U.S. practice, the cross-reference to related applications has been inserted on page 1, the claims have been amended to improve their form or to delete the multiple dependencies and to correspond to the amended claims of the international application. An abstract has been provided. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
GIOVANNI GIULIANI, ET AL.

BY: Joseph J. Orlando  
Joseph J. Orlando, Reg. No. 25,218  
Elizabeth Collard Richter, Reg. No. 35,103  
William C. Collard, Reg. No. 38,411  
Edward Callaghan, Reg. No. 46,594  
*Attorneys for Applicant*

BUCKNAM AND ARCHER  
CUSTOMER NO.: 178  
1077 Northern Boulevard  
Roslyn, NY 11576  
516 365-9802

**Express Mail No. EV 857 474 946 US**  
**Express Mail Dated: March 29, 2006**

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Melissa Konkko  
MELISSA KONKO